

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01
/095 W

-----062416 100511Z /10

R 100222Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5620
INFO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD JA KS
SUBJ: EQUITY CLAUSE IN U.S.-JAPAN OMA ON COLOR TV SETS

REF: SEOUL A-65

1. COLOR TV SET MANUFACTURE IN KOREA IS CURRENTLY SOLELY AN EXPORT ASSEMBLY OPERATION BY KOREA NATIONAL ELECTRIC CO., A JAPANESE JOINT VENTURE WITH MATSUSHITA AND SAMSUNG ELECTRONICS CO. TAEHAN ELECTRIC WIRE CO. AND WHASHIN-SONY ELECTRONICS HAVE ASSEMBLY LINES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN PUT INTO PRODUCTION BECAUSE OF MARKET UNCERTAINTY RELATED TO U.S.-JAPAN OMA AND POTENTIAL RESTRICTIONS BY OTHER COUNTRIES.

2. ROKG FOURTH FIVE YEAR PLAN CALLS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COLOR COMPONENT AND TUBE MANUFACTURE AND FOUR FIRMS, GOLD STAR, SAMSUNG, KUM HO AND ORION, A JAPANESE FIRM, HAVE APPLIED FOR LICENSES FOR COLOR TUBE MANUFACTURE. THEIR APPLICATIONS ARE "UNDER STUDY" BY THE KOREA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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AND NO REPEAT NO ROKG APPROVAL AND/OR FURTHER INVESTMENT IS LIKELY UNTIL U.S. AND OTHER COUNTRIES SENSITIVITIES TO IMPORTS ARE DISPELLED.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH H.C. SHIN, PRESIDENT OF SAMSUNG-CORNING CO. LTD., A U.S. JOINT VENTURE FOR MANUFACTURING TV TUBES, EMBOFF LEARNED THAT PRESIDENT OF CORNING, WHO IS PROMOTING

SALE OF EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY FOR INITIATING COLOR TUBE MANUFACTURE IN KOREA, IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF U.S. MANUFACTURERS ORGANIZATION LEADING DEMAND FOR OMA'S. ACCORDING TO SHIN, HIS U.S. PARTNER DESCRIBES U.S. INDUSTRY AS "MERELY REQUESTING A TEMPORARY RESPITE FROM IMPORTS TO ALLOW IT TO PUT ITS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER." EMBOFF SUGGESTED THAT SAMSUNG-CORNING WOULD BE WELL ADVISED NOT TO FILL THE SPACE RESERVED FOR COLOR TV TUBE MANUFACTURE IN ITS NEW PLANT UNTIL HIS PARTNER, ACTING IN HIS U.S. TRADE ASSOCIATION CAPACITY, INFORMS THAT COLOR TV PROBLEM HAS BEEN SOLVED.

4. ROKG HAS NOT, AND MAY NOT FOR SOME TIME AHEAD, AUTHORIZE COLOR TV BROADCASTING IN KOREA, ALTHOUGH THE KOREAN BROADCASTING SYSTEM (KBS) IS EQUIPPED TO TRANSMIT IN COLOR. NUMBER OF DOMESTIC COLOR RECEIVERS IS SMALL AND GREATEST USE IS IN PUSAN WHERE JAPANESE CHANNELS CAN BE RECEIVED, AND IN AREAS WHERE U.S. ARMED FORCES NETWORK COLOR TV BROADCASTS CAN BE RECEIVED.

5. IN VIEW OF FOREGOING, EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT NO REMINDER TO ROKG IS NECESSARY RE PROVISIONS OF U.S.-JAPAN OMA.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TELEVISION EQUIPMENT, EXPORTERS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 10-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SEOUL06665
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: UPGRADED PER MEMO FROM EA - EVELYN COLBERT 9/5/79
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Reference: 77 SEOUL A-65
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1645345
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: EQUITY CLAUSE IN U.S. - JAPAN OMA ON COLOR TV SETS
TAGS: ETRD, ETEL, JA, KS
To: STATE
Type: TE
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